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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
1920 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036
(202) 835-9555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, August 18, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended August 13 totaled an estimated 16.8 billion ton-miles, 10.3 percent above the corresponding period a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 32 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 497.4 billion ton-miles, 1.2 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended August 13 totaled 376,495 cars, 5.7 percent over 1982, and 3.5 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 2.1 percent in the East, and 2.7 percent in the South and 9.8 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 13 of the 21 commodity groups were up, including metallic ores, 26.7 percent; grain, 22.1 percent; and nonmetallic minerals, 15.3 percent. Twelve of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended August 6 totaled 45,719 cars, up 22.3 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 79,544 trailers and/or containers, 20.5 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 31 weeks of the year was 1,344,641 cars, 20.3 percent higher than last year, and 2,313,770 trailers and/or containers, up 16.9 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 8/13/83:

	Loadings in Week ended August 13, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	29,451	I	5,338	22.1	I	1,248	4.4
Other farm products	3,740	I	637	20.5	I	136	3.8
Metallic ores	18,342	I	3,866	26.7	I	2,688	17.2
Coal	111,731	D	2,606	2.3	I	8,594	8.3
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,387	I	1,469	14.8	I	21	0.2
Nonmetallic minerals	10,386	I	1,381	15.3	D	1,814	14.9
Grain mill products	11,395	D	458	3.9	D	32	0.3
Food and kindred products	11,441	D	1,314	10.3	D	11	0.1
Primary forest products	14,193	D	922	6.1	D	21	0.1
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,889	I	899	15.0	D	218	3.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,728	D	1,054	6.7	D	396	2.6
Chemicals and allied products	22,607	I	1,012	4.7	D	48	0.2
Petroleum products	4,863	D	105	2.1	I	129	2.7
Stone, clay and glass products	11,390	I	1,349	13.4	I	484	4.4
Coke	5,091	I	794	18.5	D	106	2.0
Metals and products	8,161	I	1,046	14.7	I	1,177	16.9
Motor vehicles and equipment	13,492	I	1,288	10.6	D	184	1.3
Waste and scrap materials	7,917	I	408	5.4	I	319	4.2
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,950	D	417	5.0	I	260	3.4
All other carloads	51,042	I	8,637	20.4	I	338	0.7
LCL traffic	299	D	937	75.8	I	26	9.5
Total Cars Loaded	376,495	I	20,311	5.7	I	12,590	3.5
Corresponding week of 1982	356,184						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (32 weeks)	11,289,066	11,813,509	D 4.4
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
31 weeks ended August 6	480.6	488.3	D 1.6
Week ended August 13	16.8	15.2	I 10.3
32 weeks cumulative	497.4	503.5	D 1.2

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